

**From:** Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
**Sent:** 2/29/2012 11:28:27 AM  
  
**To:** Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US@EPA  
**CC:** Cynthia Caporale/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA; Jennifer Gundersen/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Subject:** Re: Ethylene Glycol

Rick,

This is great. Right now we have an ethylene glycol RLs at 10 ppm with the labs reporting down to their MDL (around 1-5ppm). The table below is the list we are currently analyzing on our LC/MS/MS -- but we currently are unable to do ethylene glycol or propylene glycol. We get an unidentified peak in some of the samples at the same parent mass as 2-methoxyethanol. We believe this is propylene glycol. Can R6 do all of the glycols on our list including propylene and what levels can you obtain?

Stevie Wilding, Chemist  
Environmental Science Center  
Analytical Services Branch  
(410) 305-2606

*"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."*  
-- Martin Luther King, Jr. --

From: Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US  
To: Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
Date: 02/29/2012 10:38 AM  
Subject: Re: Ethylene Glycol

Stevie,

We have the column installed and ready to go. Ken Stevens is making standards to run a curve. If it looks good we will be good to go. What reporting limit is needed for this test?

Rick McMillin  
Deputy Branch Chief  
Region 6 Houston Lab  
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From: Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
To: Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 02/27/2012 04:59 PM  
Subject: Re: Ethylene Glycol

The contract lab did analysis with GC/FID and did no confirmation analysis. Detects were very low -- but we did not feel confident with the results.

From: Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US  
To: Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
Date: 02/27/2012 04:37 PM  
Subject: Re: Ethylene Glycol

Stevie,

I would like to help. However, timing isn't good for us, we have Nick out this week and Diane isn't back for a couple of weeks. However, I have one chemist who might have time to get the method back up and try out ethylene glycol, but he is out for the day. I will talk to him in the morning and see what we can do. Any ideas why the contract lab didn't provide useful data? Reporting limit too low or bad QC?

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From: Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
To: Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 02/27/2012 03:17 PM  
Subject: Re: Ethylene Glycol

Rick,

We have another round of sampling to occur for 4 homes in Dimock next week. Sorry for the late notice -- but the contracted results for ethylene glycol did not provide useful data. So I wanted to ask again if Region 6 can or would be willing to provide support for this analysis. The number of samples is should be about 10 -- but could go up to and continue into the following week.

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From: Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US  
To: Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
Date: 01/19/2012 04:39 PM  
Subject: Re: Ethylene Glycol

Thanks Stevie,

We really want to help and feel bad about the circumstances. If there is some other way we can be of assistance please let us know.

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From: Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
To: Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Adam Molnar/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/19/2012 03:33 PM  
Subject: Re: Ethylene Glycol

Rick,

Thanks for the update. Given the urgency of this sampling event -- we will probably contract this out.

Stevie

From: Rick McMillin/R6/USEPA/US  
To: Stevie Wilding/ESC/R3/USEPA/US  
Date: 01/19/2012 04:23 PM  
Subject: Ethylene Glycol

Stevie,

My boss David Neleigh asked me to contact you about the ethylene glycol samples. I will try to give you a call after I send this message in case you are still in the office.

We are willing to try to set up the method for ethylene glycol using the same method we used for propylene glycol in the Gulf Oil Spill, which was a direct inject GC/MS on a wax column. The problem is that Diane Gregg, the person who set up this method for us, is out until the middle of March and we have a large number of samples in house right now. We should be able to get the method going without her, but right now feel that the earliest we could take samples would be Feb 13th, given our current commitments. Let us know if you think that would work for you, or if we really need to look at taking more extreme measures to fit this in.

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